

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Tsuneo MAKI

Serial No.: 10/538,285

Group Art Unit 3653

Date Filed: June 7, 2005

Examiner: David H. Bollinger

For: SHEET CONVEYANCE APPARATUS AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In order to ensure compliance with the applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97(a)-(d), Applicant hereby submits this Information Disclosure Statement.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d), after the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance, but before or concurrently with payment of the issue fee. A Notice of Allowance was issued April 25, 2008 in connection with the application. The issue fee is due July 25, 2008. Applicant has not yet paid the issue fee. Each reference listed in the Form PTO-1449 annexed to this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. The fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for filing an Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) is ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY DOLLARS (\$180.00). The Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge the \$180.00 fee to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

The reference listed in the annexed Form PTO-1449 was cited in a March 21, 2008 official action in connection with a counterpart Chinese patent application. A copy of the March 21, 2008 Chinese official action with an English translation is also enclosed herewith. Reference

US5316282 cited in the Chinese official action was submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on July 26, 2007 and therefore is not being listed on the Form PTO-1449 annexed hereto.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in the annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, and that such art be made of record in said application.

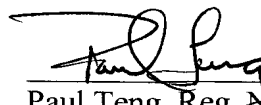
The citation of the listed item is not a representation that it constitutes a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the item is prior art. The item listed is submitted in good faith, but is not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular item, it will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

The Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that are required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement, and to credit any overpayment during prosecution of this application, to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 16, 2008



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